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### FUN FACT

Did you know? When you sneeze, your body is getting rid of infected cells. An average sneeze will spread more than 100,000 virus cells up to nine meters.

On average, adults catch two to three colds each year. School-age children can have 12 or more colds in a year.

Source: [University of Queensland](https://www.uq.edu.au/health)



**Indiana  
Department  
of  
Health**

### Mission:

*To promote, protect,  
and improve the health  
and safety of all Hoosiers.*

## Correcting misinformation is part of everyone's job

One of the biggest challenges public health has faced in recent years has been the battle against misinformation.

We saw that in abundance throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and are seeing similar instances surrounding the work of the Governor's Public Health Commission. That's why it's important to be armed with the facts, pay attention to what's being said, and to set the record straight when you encounter inaccurate information.

During our recent town hall, I shared the highlights of the commission's recommendations, which are designed to build a stronger public health infrastructure that will benefit generations to come. We stand on the cusp of an opportunity to truly transform public health in our state. It's an exciting time, but for people who are hearing inaccurate narratives, it can be unsettling.

Local health departments, for example, recently expressed concern that the recommendations included a state takeover of local health departments. That is not at all the case. In fact, the commission's work resoundingly found that public health is best delivered at a local level by local experts and organizations that best know the needs of their communities. The commission has recommended additional state investment and support for local public health, through both funding

for core public health services and through resources that would be offered at regional and district levels.

Local health departments and elected officials would not



**Kris Box, MD,  
FACOG**

be required to accept either and would not lose any existing funding if they opted to maintain the status quo; however, if they accepted additional funding, they would agree to provide the core public health services that will be determined through collaborative work being done between IDOH and local health departments.

Does this mean a local health department would have to deliver all those services itself? Again, absolutely not! Every jurisdiction is unique and has partnerships that best serve its communities.

We saw during COVID that some local health departments partnered with hospitals for immunizations and testing and were very effective at serving their populations. What works best in a small county might not be the right model for a larger county, so while each jurisdiction would be required

to ensure that the core public health services are offered, how those services are delivered would be tailored to best suit the needs of the local community.

Keeping external partners informed about the work to implement these recommendations starts with all of you.

That's why we have created a new link on The Nerve Center to house essential resources like a PowerPoint and one-pagers that you can share with your divisions and stakeholders. It's why we are committed to providing you all regular updates on the progress of implementation and how it will impact our work here at IDOH.

We know that each of you has an opportunity to serve as an ambassador for this transformative work, by directing people to the full report at [www.in.gov/gphc](https://www.in.gov/gphc), sharing the one-pagers or slide deck, or relaying the questions and concerns you are hearing when you're meeting with stakeholders or attending conferences.

Be sure to share what you're hearing with Amy Kent so that we can address misinformation. Letting people know how this work will benefit the health of Hoosiers and correcting false information is paramount to the long-term health of our state.

Yours in health,  
*Kris*

## Spotlight:

# COVID-19 test results & vaccine portal wins 'Best App Serving the Public' award at digital summit

For Mohan Ambaty, selecting only a single project to highlight for an awards ceremony is a little bit like trying to choose a favorite pet.

With all important in their own ways and each helmed by dedicated Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) staff, the IDOH Chief Information Officer said he has a difficult decision to make when it comes to nominating any of the Office of Technology and Compliance's myriad works. With a packed portfolio, however, there is never a wrong choice – and that's a pleasant problem to have.

Though it wasn't an easy decision, Ambaty's selection of the [COVID-19 Patient Test Results and Vaccination Portal](#) paid immediate dividends when it was named "Best Application Serving the Public" at the [Indiana Digital Government Summit](#) in Indianapolis Oct. 6. The award is part of the Indiana Office of Technology's (IOT) "Best of Indiana" technology awards. The awards program was established "to recognize the best use of technology by Indiana state and local government and education organizations," according to IOT.



Ambaty explained that the nominated project needed to have a tangible benefit for the public and should be readily accessible and easy to use. It also had to exhibit a business need.

The portal covered those requirements – and then some.

"We saw a half million people downloaded the vaccination certificate last year," Ambaty said.

He noted that about 250,000 people had utilized the portal to obtain COVID-19 test results. The heaviest traffic followed the roll-out of the first vaccines in spring 2021, but people continue to use the portal some 31 months after the first cases were confirmed in Indiana. The accessibility of the application, which could be used by virtually anyone with an internet connection, and its ease of use were two of its defining aspects and made it a logical candidate for an award nomination.

He joked that he had a feeling this project would have a good chance at earning the "Best Application Serving the Public" award.

"I had sort of a sixth sense we may get it," he said, acknowledging that the award stands as a testament to untold hours of hard work. "It's a very big honor."

The portal was the work of many, but Ambaty wished to highlight a few standout individuals' contributions, including Nirupam Verma, Gautham Muddam, Vijay Soppa, and Muhammad Azimi.



**Indiana Department of Health Chief Information Officer Mohan Ambaty (left) accepts the award for "Best Application Serving the Public" at the 2022 Best of Indiana Awards Oct. 6. Pictured with Ambaty is Indiana Office of Technology Chief Information Officer Tracy Barnes.**

"Every member of my team is directly or indirectly involved with all the applications," Ambaty explained. "My team is behind all we do."

Ambaty also noted the contributions of the IDOH Legal division, Epidemiology Resource Center, Immunization division, and the Office of Public Affairs.

Ambaty is a member of the Indiana Digital Government Summit advisory board and was one of more than two dozen speakers featured during a day full of activities. Public and private sector professionals were able to network and share ideas through those presentations as well as via in-person interactions.

Though he's not one to seek recognition, especially for himself, 2022 has been a year filled with positives for Ambaty, personally and professionally. Notably, he finished a half marathon in Antarctica early in the year and was named an "informatics champion" for [the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) (ASTHO) in the spring. In August, he was named Indiana Business Journal (IBJ) Top Honoree 2022 Tech Executive for the year.

## Learning opportunity: Handling workplace change

Workplace change is hard. In this course, Chris Croft explains why we struggle with change and shares many practical techniques that can help you manage — and even thrive — in a world of constant change. Croft explains why most of us dislike it and how to prepare for changes throughout your life. He also outlines five common types of workplace change and provides strategies for

dealing with each. These helpful techniques could easily apply to other changes in your life as well. [Click here](#) to watch. You can now find the entire LinkedIn Learning library through [SuccessFactors Learning](#). For state employees who are new or have never utilized our LinkedIn Learning account, [click here](#) for help logging on. Contact [SPD Training](#) if you have questions.

## Don't forget: 'cooling off period' may apply post-IDOH employment

Thinking of leaving state employment? Be sure you are aware of the "cooling off" period and post-employment requirements.

IC 4-2-6-11 and 42 IAC 1-5-14 require a 365-day "cooling off" period if you will be working as a lobbyist, if you were involved in the negotiation or administration of a contract on behalf of any state agency and were in a position to make a discretionary decision affecting the outcome of the negotiation or nature of the administration, or if you were in a position to make a regulatory or licensing decision that directly applied to the employer.

There may be additional requirements if your prospective employment requires you to work on a "particular matter" that you

may have been involved in during your employment with the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) as defined by statute.

If you believe the "cooling off" requirement may apply to your prospective employment, you should seek an informal advisory opinion from the Office of the Inspector General or a formal advisory opinion from the State Ethics Commission using their website: <https://www.in.gov/ig/> before negotiating with the employer. It is always better to seek an opinion than to find out later that you may be in violation.

You may also direct questions about this or other ethics issues to Erin Elam, IDOH ethics officer.

## Quinn honored as IEHA Environmental Health Specialist of the Year

If there was one word to describe Alice Quinn's thoughts when her name was announced at a recent awards ceremony, it might have been "surprised."

"I was sitting there at the [Indiana Environmental Health Association's](#) awards ceremony and I was like, 'What? Did they just say my name?'" she said with a laugh.

When Quinn's name was indeed called at the IEHA's annual ceremony in late September, it was to inform the group that the long-time [IDOH Residential Onsite Sewage System](#) senior environmental manager has been named [Environmental Health Specialist of the Year](#) for 2022.

"It was really unexpected," she recalled.

But anyone who has worked with Alice Quinn knows that her receiving such an honor is as about as unsurprising as the daily sunrise. That's because whether she's rescuing animals or helping train local health departments on important new regulations, Quinn's heart is very much in everything she does.

Having spent almost a quarter century in public health work and having been with IDOH since 2010, Quinn leads a small team that performs a variety of work related to onsite sewage disposal methods for one- and two-family dwellings located beyond the reach of sanitary sewers. The scope of the team's work includes providing training and technical assistance to all local health departments, and they work in conjunction with the commercial plan review program that provides plan review for onsite sewage systems serving commercial facilities, such as apartment buildings, mobile home parks, certain retail outlets, restaurants, and many more.

Quinn and her team's "office" is often out in the field, interacting with local health departments to improve processes and make certain that state requirements are met at the local level. Local health departments issue more than 15,000 permits per year for new onsite sewage systems, as well as around 6,000 per-

mits for system repairs, according to the latest available data.

"I love being out in the field with the installers and with the local health department folks," Quinn said. "I love my job regardless of what I'm doing."

She does all of it extremely well, too, which is how she came to be nominated for the IEHA award -- an honor that's been handed out almost every year since 1970. Qualified applicants must exhibit "outstanding contributions in the field of environmental health or public health preparedness and emergency response within the past five years," the [nomination form](#) states.

Quinn's first love, however, is and likely always will be animals. She's currently mom to three rescue dogs -- a mastiff named Levi, a pit bull mix called Bella, and Newfoundland mix Winston. The farm on which she lives with her husband has been home to rabbits, chickens, and other barnyard critters throughout the years as well.

"I take in a lot of animals that need a new home or a better home," said Quinn, who holds a degree in animal sciences from Purdue University. "That's closest to my heart."

Also close are her team members, including EPH director Mike Mettler, fellow senior environmental manager Denise Wright, and environmental scientists Mark Miller, David Ortel, and Joe Rakoczy. Mettler said Quinn was "very deserving" of the award.

"Alice is a big advocate for environmental health," said Mettler. "There is no one who works harder than her."

She credits Mettler and other colleagues for her program's success in providing a val-

uable public health service.

Quinn's modesty? That's also not at all surprising.

"I was very happily surprised and very humbled," she said of her award. "I work with a lot of great people. To be singled out as the top environmental health specialist of the year is really quite humbling."



**Alice Quinn was recently honored as the Environmental Health Specialist of the Year by the IEHA. Quinn is a senior environmental manager for the division of Environmental Public Health.**



## Big dreams are made of this: HIPP helps build hoop house to combat Hamilton County hunger

The [Health Issues and Challenges grant program](#) is helping make big dreams come true for Hoosiers.

Recently, some members of IDOH's division of Health Innovation Partnerships and Programs (HIPP) volunteered their time to help a Noblesville farm get further toward its goal of helping Hoosiers facing food insecurity.

The Health Issues and Challenges grant program helped fund the construction of two high tunnel hoop houses for [Teter Organic Farm](#), which can help extend the Hamilton County farm's growing season year-round. Volunteer crews helped construct the high tunnel hoop house, building beams and holding up walls alongside some of the farm's regular helpers on Sept. 20. Teter was one of dozens of organizations to receive an [IDOH Health Issues and Challenges grant in June 2022](#).

The IDOH employees were able to make use of [community service leave](#), part of the NextLevel State Work programs unveiled earlier this year. The employees enjoyed their time at the farm and are hopeful the grants are making a difference.

"During our time at Teter Organic Farms, I learned not only about the fresh organic food production taking place on the 110 acres but also of the 27,000 individuals living in Hamilton County that are food insecure," said HIPP's Aimee Ingram. "Teter Organic Farms is making proactive strides to feed these hungry individuals living in and around their community. Their big dreams are obtainable and sustainable through the partnership with the HIPP division."



Health Issues and Challenges division director Regina Smith (left) and Lacy Foy help raise a portion of a high tunnel hoop house at Teter Organic Farm in Noblesville. The farm was the recipient of a grant that allowed the building of two hoop houses, which will help the farm grow food year-round.



IDOH volunteers worked with others at Teter Organic Farm to construct high tunnel hoop houses on Sept. 20.



Health Innovation Partnerships and Programs' Haley Dalhoff was part of the construction crew at Teter Organic Farm in Noblesville.

### Minnie Kohli

**GUESS WHO I MET ON THE ELEVATOR?**



**Title:** Administrative assistant, Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education

**Brief Job Description:** My role involves assisting the director of health at the Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education and the executive staff. I am responsible for working independently and creating and or maintaining established procedures.

**Time at IDOH:** I started on Sept. 19, 2022.

**What do you like most about working at IDOH?** I love that I have a very supportive team, and the work environment is very positive.

### Health Equity Council still accepting applications

The Health Equity Council is still accepting applications from IDOH program areas that would like funding for Health Equity Training within their teams. The deadline for applications is Dec. 31, 2022.

Each division that applies will be capped at \$10,000 to fund their training effort.

All program areas are encouraged to apply.

If you have any questions, reach out to Naima J. Gardner ([NGardner1@isdh.IN.gov](mailto:NGardner1@isdh.IN.gov)) and Marika Baptist ([MBaptist@health.in.gov](mailto:MBaptist@health.in.gov)).

## Leadership course 'goes gold,' honors graduates

Learning is a lifelong experience, and good leaders are lifelong learners.

For state employees working in (or seeking to work in) leadership roles, the Leadership at All Levels (LAAL) program provides a path of learning that will help foster effective leadership and strong working relationships. But to do that, you first have to know yourself.

"To lead others effectively, it's important to really know and lead yourself first," said Deputy State Health Commissioner Pam Pontones as she addressed graduates of the LAAL Gold Course program Sept. 29. "This course was a deep dive into who you are as leaders."

Some of the leadership course graduates gathered with Pontones and others in Adams Auditorium at the Indiana Department of Health on September 29 to receive certificates for completing the latest course. They were also treated to a visit by State Health Commissioner Dr. Kris Box who, along with Pontones, encouraged the group to continue making the most of opportunities to learn.

Dr. Box told the group that the knowledge they gain through LAAL can be applied not only to their work, but to their personal lives as well.

Pontones expressed pride in the group and complimented them for sticking with the course despite delays and interruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. She emphasized that some-



**The latest graduates of the Leadership at All Levels Gold Course celebrated completing the Q3 course in Adams Auditorium.**

thing positive can be learned from almost any situation and that she believes good things lie ahead for the graduates.

"I have the utmost confidence you will succeed wherever your leadership journey takes you," Pontones said. "I'm very proud of all of you."

Pontones also took time to thank program organizers, including Nicole Morley, Patricia Truelove, Erika Casso, Mia Brewer, and Shawn Pence.

In addition to IDOH, employees of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Auditor of State, Family and Social Services Administration, Indiana Gaming Commission, Indiana Department of Correction, Indiana Department of Transportation and the Indiana General Assembly completed the course.

The Q3 Gold Course graduating class included Tonya Armstrong, Margaux Auxier, Jeffrey Bahling, Grace Bassett, Mia Brewer, Rita Browne, Sara Caudell, Kayla Caviness, Joshua Cortes, Jessica Fliss, Lori Freeman, Kaitlyn Gomez, Kelly Hall, Haley Hannant, Caleb Hoffman, David Hopper, Kyra Kofodimos, Thomas Kreke, Ali Meils, Mark Nance, Jodi Pisula, William Quist, Robyn Raftis, Jennifer Reno, Taylor Ruble, Greta Sanderson, Kate Schedel, Shane Schmidt, Robert Scott, Nicole Tipton, Jin Wang, Cheryl Whitfield, and Legita Wilson.

The LAAL Blue Course, which focuses on leading and managing change, began Oct. 5. Another LAAL Blue Course is scheduled to start in January.

## October staffing updates

### Please welcome the following new Indiana Department of Health employees:

- Sanchari Biswas, Vital Records
- Diana Ford, Tobacco Prevention
- James Fellers, Laboratories
- Courtney Luttrell, Finance
- Sarah Stanley, Lead and Healthy Homes
- Holly Simpson, Tobacco Prevention
- Anuoluwapo Adeboje, HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis
- Kierra Tucker, Maternal and Child Health
- Jolene Gettis, Finance
- Christian Smith, Vital Records
- Brooke Cummins, Immunization

### Employee referral bonus

The employee referral bonus is a great way to earn some extra money and help the Indiana Department of Health continue to attract and retain talented applicants and employees.

As an IDOH employee, you can provide firsthand knowledge to these applicants by sharing how IDOH is a great place to work!

If you have questions or just need a refresher on the policy, click [here](#).

- Jana Caudill, Acute Care
- Beverly Jenkins, CSHCS
- Balagopalakrishna Chavali, Laboratories
- Chloe Sirico, HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis
- Aurora Johnson, Acute Care





## Fall: The perfect season for flu shots

The Oct. 6 flu shot clinic in Adams Auditorium at the Indiana Department of Health's 2 North Meridian location allowed IDOH employees an opportunity to get their seasonal flu vaccine as well as several other types, including the new COVID-19 boosters.

Seen here are the Division of Emergency Preparedness' Taylor Graham and Aaron Jackson.

Find more upcoming clinics [here](#).

## ICHLA Festival celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month



The recent [Indiana Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs](#) (ICHLA) Festival was a great success.

Held Sept. 15 in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the festival took place at the Indiana Statehouse and included food, visits from community organizations, mobile health screenings and live mariachi music.

Indiana Department of Health Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis public health administrators Dandy Garcia and Eli Chavez assisted at the event, which was also attended by State Health Commissioner Dr. Kris Box and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Lindsay Weaver.

National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the histories, cultures and contributions of individuals whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period that begins Sept. 15 and includes independence days for several Latin American countries, as well as Mexico and Chile. It was enacted into law on Aug. 17, 1988. You can learn more at <https://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/about/>.

Look for more information on Dandy Garcia and Eli Chavez' work in an upcoming edition of Pulse.

## You're invited to Quitober Fest!

The changing weather, fall colors, and the start of open enrollment for 2023 make now the perfect time to quit tobacco. Quit Now Indiana continues to make the best tools and support available to those who are ready to break their tobacco addiction.



Don't wait to get the help you need! Simply text READY to 200-400.

Quitting tobacco is hard, but you can do it! Get free help – no lectures, no pressure, no judgment – and learn more at [QuitNowIndiana.com](https://QuitNowIndiana.com).

## Data Literacy Series: Data Governance Subcommittees

When people take ownership over and care about their data, an organization can take the next step in fulfilling its mission.

The Indiana Department of Health's (IDOH) Data Governance Subcommittees allow just that, enabling our organization to sustain key areas of the Governor's Public Health Commission through Project DARTT.

### WHAT ARE DATA GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEES?

IDOH Data Governance Subcommittees are groups of people passionate about data led by the Executive Data Governance Board (EDGB), a leadership group within IDOH that exists to improve the use and analytics of IDOH data. Subcommittees provide opportunities for every employee within IDOH to impact our organization through participation and development of data best practices.

What does that look like today?

### Active Groups

IDOH has several [active](#) bodies designed to tackle key areas of data ownership. Members were nominated by the EDGB and IDOH division leaders for their subject-matter expertise.

The **Data Release Committee** is a re-launched group designed to meet the growing volume and complexity of data needs inter-

nal and external to IDOH. In consultation with data owners, the DRC will approve or deny the release of data based on relevant state and federal statutes as well as agency regulations.

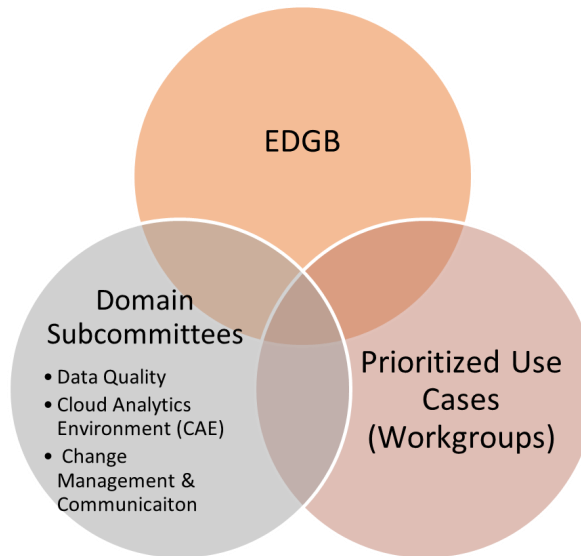
The **Cloud Analytics Environment Governance Subcommittee** exists to understand and replicate systems in our Cloud Environment and make the most data available for the most impactful systems and people.

**Data Quality** is a committee designed to create trust. People who are charged with reporting on data can feel assured they have the most accurate decision-making information possible.

**Change Management and Communication** exists because people want to be informed and confident about digital change. When people are knowledgeable and see how change can better their daily lives, we build widely adopted and sustained digital transformation.

### How Might these Groups Serve You?

As these groups mature and establish their routines, we will solicit your input and create formal feedback mechanisms for engagement across the agency. Look for more to come on how these active groups will support IDOH.



## Check out DARTT on the IDOH intranet!

The Data, Analytics, Reporting, and Technology Transformation (DARTT) intranet site is now live on the Indiana Department of Health Nerve Center. Visit [www.in.gov/health/thenervecenter/digital-transformation-initiative/](http://www.in.gov/health/thenervecenter/digital-transformation-initiative/) for more information. Do you have a suggestion? The DARTT team wants to hear from you! You can share your thoughts at the [suggestion eBox](#), or reach out directly to the team by contacting Bob Davis at [rodavis@health.in.gov](mailto:rodavis@health.in.gov), and/or Mohan Ambaty at [mambaty@isdh.in.gov](mailto:mambaty@isdh.in.gov).

## Vital Records 'pop-up shop' a success, division featured in national newsletter

October was a busy but memorable month for the Indiana Department of Health's (IDOH) Division of Vital Records.

The team hosted a successful "pop-up shop" at the IDOH 2 North Meridian location Oct. 20 that allowed state employees and their families to purchase copies of birth and/or death certificates.

Organizers Shay Johnson and Rosalie Conley said the event featured "a great turnout." The team plans to offer the service again next spring.



**At left: Rosalie Conley, Allyson Cole, Maria Hardy, Janayla Collins, Elsie Brown, Evelyn Riley, Verchelle Kennedy, Shay Johnson. At right: Vital Records Division Director Alpa Mistry and Assistant Director Mary Kate Bradley**



The division also was featured in the [National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems](#) (NAPHSIS) newsletter for IDOH Vital Records' "new vision and mission statement."

The new vision and mission statement align with the division's core values and were created through collaboration with IDOH's Office of Public Health Performance Management. Learn more about the team

and its mission [here](#).



## Shield Spotlight: Food Protection team, director share awards

The Indiana Department of Health's Division of Food Protection is a close-knit group.

Director Vivien McCurdy has worked to cultivate a strong sense of camaraderie among a group spread throughout the state but doing their part to ensure everything Hoosiers eat – from farm to table – is safe.

Earlier this year, two Food Protection employees took time to nominate McCurdy for a Shield Spotlight Award of Excellence.

William "Bill" Tuley, a Food Safety farm consultant, and Kristine "Kris" Gasperic, a food scientist, had kind words for their director on their nomination forms.

"Vivien has taken over the Food Protection division in a time of need," said Tuley. "She has pulled this department back into a team again."

Similarly, Gasperic said McCurdy has worked to improve the division, forging strong bonds among the team in the process.

"She has done all this with a smile on her face and a sympathetic ear," Gasperic said. "Vivien is amazing, and she is amazing to our division."

The feeling is mutual.

Late last summer, McCurdy nominated her entire team for an

Award of Excellence as well, citing their work at the Indiana State Fair as one of a number of reasons the team is deserving of some time in the spotlight.

"Indiana Food Protection has been inspecting food vendors at the State Fair for over 20 years," said McCurdy. "The team works hard to monitor food emergency incidents and to inspect every single delivery truck and [all] food vendors during the month-long fair."

She explained the team coordinates months in advance of the annual fair in preparation and sacrifices weekends and even some family time throughout the summer to achieve their mission.

The pride in their work is another thing that defines the team, and McCurdy is more than happy to celebrate them at any opportunity.

"Maintaining a safe food system, from farm to fork, takes a dedicated team of food scientists working together," McCurdy said. "Rain or

shine, hot or cold, they visit food establishments to ensure all foods are prepared and grown safely. Their passion and willingness in sharing their knowledge with all the local health department food inspectors and facility operators speaks volumes of their commitment. It is my honor to work with this amazing group of professionals. They inspire me every day, and most importantly, I know that I can count on them."



SHIELD SPOTLIGHT  
OCTOBER 2022

### Vivien McCurdy

Division Director  
Food Protection

*"It is my honor to work with this amazing group of professionals. They inspire me every day and most importantly, I know that I can count on them."*

Back row, from left to right: Shaun Cutrell, Aaron Tinsley, Jordan Young, Eric Eldridge, Donna Walker, Derek Dayhuff, David Schmidt, Anthony Ingram

Front row, from left to right: Stanley Danao, Kimberly Wolfla, Sharon Pattee, Tangela Walker, Valerie Smith, Jennifer Coleman, Vivien McCurdy

Not in picture: Bill Tuley, Brian Shortridge, Emily Engle, Ed Norris, Hank Wolfe, Heidi Walker, Jade Williams, Kris Gasperic, Margaret Voyles, Morgan Roddy, Sharon Farrell, and Tyler Hale.

## Nominate someone for a Shield Spotlight award today!

Do you work with a shining star? Is there a fellow employee (or even an entire team!) you'd like to nominate for an award? [Click here](#) to recognize IDOH employees via any of the following Shield Spotlight awards: Team Player, Customer Service, Personal Achievement, Workplace Milestone, or Award of Excellence. We'll feature the nominees each month in the Pulse newsletter. You can also check them out on [The Nerve Center!](#)